

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 02958 01 OF 02 271308Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

ACDA-05 TRSE-00 EB-07 CEA-01 CIEP-01 OMB-01 OIC-02

NEA-10 /086 W

----- 074061

R 271216Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2047

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 2958

PARIS ALSO FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LOWENSTEIN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY (NAA) CRITICIZES MINIMAL ATTENDANCE
OF UNITED STATES DELEGATES AT SPRING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

1. AT OPENING OF MAY 23 MEETING OF NAA PILITICAL COMMITTEE,
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FRG PARLIAMENTARIAN ERIK BLUMENFELD (CDU/
SCU-HAMBURG) SHARPLY CRITICIZED WHAT HE TERMED "THE MINIMAL
PARTICIPATION OF UNITED STATES DELEGATES AT THE MAY MEETINGS
OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY." BLUMENFELD SAID "THE UNFOR-
TUNATE BUT UNAVOIDABLE CONCLUSION THAT ONE MUST REACH IS THAT
THEY (THE UNITED STATES) DO NOT ATTACH THE SAME IMPORTANCE TO
A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH EUROPE AND WITH THE NAA AS IS COMMONLY
ASSUMED." THIS CRITICISM WAS SECONDED BY UK LABOR MP SIR GEOFFERY
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NATO 02958 01 OF 02 271308Z

DE FREITAS AND SUPPORTED BY A NUMBER OF OTHER ALLIED PARLIAME-
NTARIANS IN THEIR SEPARATE INTERVENTIONS.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MAY 24 MEETING OF THE NAA MILITARY COMMITTEE,

CONSERVATIVE STORTING MEMBER PAUL THYNESS ALSO EXPRESSED REGRET THAT ONLY ONE RATHER THAN ALL NINE U.S. MEMBERS OF THAT NAA COMMITTEE WAS PRESENT.

2. U.S. CONGRESSMAN CHARLES WILSON (R-CALIF.), THE ONLY AMERICAN NAA DELEGATE PRESENT AT THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING, ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE SMALL SIZE OF THE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE NAA COMMITTEE MEETINGS WAS REGRETTABLE, AND SAID ALLIES SHOULD NOT DRAW IMPROPER CONCLUSIONS FROM THIS AHPPENSTANCE. CONGRESSMAN WILSON CITED THE FOLLOWING EXAMPLES, AMONG OTHERS, TO DEMONSTRATE CONTINUED U.S. CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR MAINTAINING U.S. TROOP LEVELS IN EUROPE, FOR THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AND FOR THE NAA: A) RECENT HOUSE ACTION ON THE DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL INCLUDING OVERWHELMING DEFEAT OF A PROPOSED AMENDMENT WHICH WOULD HAVE ORDERED A 70,000-MAN U.S. TROOP-CUT WORLDWIDE; B) LARGE DELEGATIONS FROM THE U.S. CONGRESS TO LAST YEAR'S NAA ANNUAL SESSION IN LONDON; AND C) RECENT EXTENSIVE TRAVELS TO NATO COMMANDS AND CAPITALS BY MANY MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE.

3. U.P.I. RAN A MAY 24 STORY ABOUT THIS CRITICISM. THE LEAD READ: "EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT MEMBERS ACCUSED THE AMERICAN CONGRESS SATURDAY OF A POST-VIETNAM LOSS OF INTEREST IN EUROPE AND THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE." BYLINE: RICHARD C. LONGWORTH. (DEPARTMENT SEE UPI 5-24 "NIGHT LEAD NATO." INFO ADDRESSEES SEE UPI LUA 129 241514 OR MAY 26 BEGIN UNDERLINE STARS AND STRIPES, END UNDERLINE P.I.)

4. COMMENT: WHILE CONGRESSMAN WILSON'S RESPONSE WAS EFFECTIVE IN COUNTERING SOME OF THE DISAPPOINTMENT AT U.S. ATTENDANCE AT NAA COMMITTEE MEETINGS, MISSION BELIEVES EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARIANS NONETHELESS HAVE READ "HIDDEN MEANING" IN THE LIMITED U.S. PARTICIPATION. THEIR SKEPTICISM, WE BELIEVE, IS SYMPTOMATIC OF GENERAL CURRENT CONCERN ABOUT THE DIRECTIO OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY IN LIGHT OF EVENTS IN THE FAR EAST AND THE CONTINUING DEBATE BETWEEN THE U.S. EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES THAT HAS BEEN WIDELY REPORTED IN THE EUROPEAN PRESS.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 NATO 02958 01 OF 02 271308Z

TO HELP OFFSET CONCERNS AMONG EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARIANS, AND TO ENCOURAGE THEIR CONTINUING SUPPORT OF THE ALLIANCE AND ESPECIALLY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE EFFORTS, WE BELIEVE THAT DEPARTMENT, TO EXTENT POSSIBLE, SHOULD ENCOURAGE WIDEST U.S. CONGRESSIONAL PARTICIPATION IN NAA AND SIMILAR ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING THE JUNE 16-24 NAA TOUR OF CENTRAL EUROPE AND THE SEPTEMBER 21-26 NAA TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION IN COPENHAGEN.

5. FULL TEXT OF BLUMENFELD'S REMMARKS FOLLOW:

BEGIN TEXT

"IN MY CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY I FEEL IT IS NECESSARY TO VOICE MY SINCERE REGRET AND CONCERN AT THE MINIMAL PARTICIPATION OF UNITED STATES DELEGATES AT THE MAY MEETINGS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY.

RECENT INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS HAVE GIVEN THESE MEETINGS AN EXCEPTIONAL RELEVANCE AND URGENCY: EVENTS IN SOUTH EAST ASIA, DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE BRANCHES OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, THE INSTABILITY ON THE SOUTHERN FLANK, AND FINALLY THE MEETING NEXT WEEK OF THE NATO HEADS OF GOVERNMENT, ARE ALL FACTORS WHICH INDICATE THE VITAL AND IMMEDIATE NEED FOR CONSULTATION AND DISCUSSION AMONG MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE. IN VIEW OF THIS SITUATION I BELIEVE PARLIAMENTARY OPINION, AND THUS THIS ASSEMBLY, HAS AN IMPORTANT AND CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE TO PLAY.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NATO 02958 02 OF 02 271318Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

ACDA-05 TRSE-00 EB-07 CEA-01 CIEP-01 OMB-01 OIC-02

NEA-10 /086 W

----- 074172

R 271216Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2048

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 2958

IN MY VIEW WE PARLIAMENTARIANS SHOULD NOT ONLY REAFFIRM OUR BELIEF IN THE ALLIANCE, BUT WE SHOULD ALSO ADVOCATE MOST STRONGLY THAT THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ALLIANCE BE UTILISED FOR THE DISCUSSION AND CO-ORDINATION OF A WIDER RANGE OF PROBLEMS THAN PRESENTLY ADMITTED.

IN ACHIEVING SUCH A TRANSITION WE EUROPEANS CAN TAKE A

DECISIVE LEAD. WE HAVE A POSITIVE RESPONSIBILITY TO RESPOND TO THE PRESENT PROBLEM AFFECTING THE UNITED STATES. THE UNITED STATES HAS SHOULDERED THE BURDEN OF MAINTAINING PEACE TOO LONG AND WE EUROPEANS MUST NOW SEIZE THE INITIATIVE AND DEMONSTRATE OUR WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE EQUALLY IN THIS ROLE.

HOWEVER, SUCH A CHANGE IN EMPHASIS REQUIRES INTENSIVE DEBATE, DISCUSSION AND MUTUAL EXCHANGE. IT IS THUS HIGHLY REGRETTABLE THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NATO 02958 02 OF 02 271318Z

HAVE FAILED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE ONLY FORUM WHERE THEY CAN DISCUSS, ON A MULTILATERAL BASIS, THE MANY PROBLEMS AFFECTING THE ALLIANCE. AS PARLIAMENTARIANS WE HAVE A PARTICULAR DUTY TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS FORUM IN ORDER TO COMMUNICATE OUR VIEWS AND FACILITATE A BASIS OF UNDERSTANDING. WE ARE ALL EQUALLY AFFECTED BY NATIONAL COMMITMENTS AND PRIORITIES WHICH FROM TIME TO TIME PROHIBIT OUR PARTICIPATION. HOWEVER, ON THE OCCASION OF THIS MEETING, WHICH HAS BEEN FIXED FOR SOME TIME, THERE APPEARS TO BE LITTLE VALID REASON WHY OUR AMERICAN FRIENDS ARE NOT WITH US. THE UNFORTUNATE BUT UNAVOIDABLE CONCLUSION THAT ONE MUST REACH IS THAT THEY DO NOT ATTACH THE SAME IMPORTANCE TO THE CLOSE REELATIONSHIP WITH EUROPE AND THE NAA AS IS COMMONLY ASSUMED.

AT THE VERY MOMENT THAT AMERICAN OPINION NEEDS TO BE HEARD, OUR ASSEMBLY IS PRACTICALLY DENIED UNITED STATES PARTICIPATION. I CAN ONLY REPEAT MY PERSONAL REGRET AND CONCERN THAT AT SUCH AN IMPORTANT TIME IN THEIR HISTORY, AND INDEED IN WORLD AFFAIRS, OUR AMERICAN MEMBERS HAVE FAILED TO UTILISE THIS IDEAL FORUM BOTH TO REAFFIRMING A RELATIONSHIP OF REAL UNDERSTANDING AND TO FURTHER A TRUSTED PARTNERSHIP.
END TEXTBRUCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NATO02958
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750599/abbrzkfz.tel
Line Count: 202
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <25 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY (NAA) CRITICIZES MINIMAL ATTENDANCE OF UNITED STATES DELEGATES AT SPRING COMMITTEE MEETINGS
TAGS: PFOR
To: STATE INFO BONN
LONDON
COPENHAGEN
OSLO
PARIS

ROME
BRUSSELS

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006